

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2009**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION DRHJR50862-LG-231 (05/11)**

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Sponsors: Representative Guice.

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Referred to:

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1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE FOUNDERS OF THE TOWN OF TRYON ON  
2 THE TOWN'S ONE HUNDREDTH TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

3 Whereas, in 1767, William Tryon, Royal Colonial Governor of North Carolina,  
4 negotiated a treaty line separating lands claimed by settlers from the Cherokee hunting grounds  
5 to the west, at which time one of the landmark peaks was named Tryon Mountain; and

6 Whereas, in 1839, a frontier post office named Tryon was established on Howard  
7 Gap Road; and

8 Whereas, in 1877, the Asheville-Spartanburg Railroad established a line to connect  
9 the markets and seaports of the South Carolina Low Country to the people and resources of  
10 Western North Carolina, Tennessee, and the Ohio Valley, which had a dramatic impact upon  
11 the course of this area's economic and social development; and

12 Whereas, Tryon City was chartered as an incorporated municipality on March 11,  
13 1885, by the North Carolina General Assembly with the appointment of T.T. Ballenger as  
14 Mayor; C.L. Jordan, George A. Smith, and Edwin Anderson as Commissioners; and John M.  
15 Dalton as Marshall; and

16 Whereas, the Town was formally laid out in a half-mile radius circle around the  
17 intersection of Pacolet Street and the railroad, a location presently marked by the Town's  
18 mascot, the Tryon Horse; and

19 Whereas, one of Tryon's most distinguished early residents, William Gillette, a  
20 noted actor who, in collaboration with Arthur Conan Doyle, created the stage version of  
21 Sherlock Holmes in 1889; and

22 Whereas, on January 9, 1889, the Le Duc sisters established the Lanier Library, as a  
23 private subscription library, named in honor of Sidney Lanier, Poet Laureate of the  
24 Confederacy, to stimulate the development of the community's civic and cultural character; and

25 Whereas, in the 1890s, General Ulysses Doubleday, brother of American baseball  
26 founder General Abner Doubleday, established his Tryon grape industry on the slopes of  
27 Tryon's Laurel Avenue and the slopes of Little Piney Mountain growing white Niagara and red  
28 Delaware grapes and initiating an era of highly successful viticulture on Tryon area slopes; and

29 Whereas, in 1915, Eleanor Vance and Charlotte Yale, late from Biltmore Industries,  
30 moved to Tryon and established the Tryon Toymakers and Wood Carvers, which trained local  
31 craftsmen for production of artisan furniture and toys which were sold worldwide; and

32 Whereas, in 1918, Carter P. Brown, noted Michigan hotelier, hearing of the Town's  
33 natural beauty and friendly citizens, converted a lodge, formerly used as a tuberculosis  
34 sanatorium, into the historical Pine Crest Inn, founded, shortly thereafter, the Tryon Riding and  
35 Hunt Club and laid the foundation for Tryon's thriving equestrian cultural tradition; and

36 Whereas, in 1920, the State Legislature granted Tryon a second charter changing the  
37 name from Tryon City to the Town of Tryon; and



1           Whereas, in 1928, the Tryon Daily Bulletin, the world's smallest daily newspaper,  
2 was launched by Seth Vining; and

3           Whereas, also in 1928, Tryon physicians, Dr. Allen J. Jervey and Dr. Marion C.  
4 Palmer, founded the 25-bed St. Luke's Hospital, with funds from an initial bequest by Miss  
5 Lucy Embury, a grant from Duke Foundation and \$57,000 contributed by local citizens; and

6           Whereas, Tryon has contributed to the leadership and historic preservation of the  
7 State of North Carolina, sending T.T. Ballenger to serve as State Senator in 1903, Francis T.  
8 Bacon to serve as State Representative in 1925 and 1937, Carroll P. Rogers to serve as State  
9 Representative in 1929, 1939, and 1941, and as a State Senator in 1945, during which time  
10 Rogers cosponsored the bill enabling the State to purchase the site of Tryon Palace in New  
11 Bern; and

12           Whereas, numerous individuals of social, cultural, literary, and cinematic fame have  
13 deeply invested themselves in the Town of Tryon, including Lou Hoover, Grace Coolidge,  
14 Eleanor Roosevelt, Margaret Culkin Banning, Lady Astor, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest  
15 Hemmingway, General George Marshall, and David Niven, among others; and

16           Whereas, in 1933, internationally renowned singer and human rights activist Nina  
17 Simone, née Eunice Waymon, was born in Tryon; and

18           Whereas, in 1964, a bequest from Violet Parish-Watson requiring matching funds  
19 from the public to build a "civic auditorium and arts center" led to the organization and opening  
20 in 1969 of the Tryon Fine Arts Center through the vision and hard work of many individuals  
21 and arts organizations including Tryon Little Theater, Tryon Concert Association, Tryon Arts  
22 & Crafts, and Tryon Painters & Sculptors; and

23           Whereas, in 1985, Foothills Equestrian Nature Center (F.E.N.C.E.) came into being  
24 as a non-profit nature education and outdoor recreation center, built around an original  
25 contribution of 112 acres from the Mahler family who had come to Tryon in the 1920s; and

26           Whereas, in 1992, the Tryon Business Beautification Association, now the Tryon  
27 Downtown Development Association, was created by concerned citizens to foster  
28 improvements in downtown Tryon; and

29           Whereas, March 11, 2010, marked the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original Town  
30 Charter; Now, therefore,

31 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

32           **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of the founders of the  
33 Town of Tryon and expresses its appreciation for the contributions that these citizens made to  
34 the State of North Carolina.

35           **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly joins the citizens of the Town of Tryon in  
36 celebrating the Town's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary and encourages the people of this State to participate  
37 in activities planned through March 10, 2011, to celebrate the Town's historic anniversary.

38           **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this  
39 resolution to the Mayor of the Town of Tryon.

40           **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.